

## EDUCATIONAL COLUMN.

All communications intended for this column should be addressed to J. H. O'NEILL, following, Esq., who has kindly consented to edit it.

### A State University.

The subject of the re-establishment of the State University is attracting the attention of the press of the State, and many are the ponderous leaders that go to distract the mind of the public on this question. In our opinion, we are unprepared for the University at present. The State is not ripe for it. Let us first establish a State system of education, then it will be time enough to talk of the University. In some parts of our State we have standard schools, and it is because the people in those places are intelligent. On the other hand it would be difficult to find worse schools in some parts, because in certain places the ignorance of the people can scarcely find parallel. We do not oppose the re-establishment of the University, but we would rejoice in the establishment of that system of common school education which would make a State University necessary. It seems to be folly to make a head without having a body on which to put it. Educate our people by supplying their immediate demands, and this will form an enlightened public sentiment that will clamor loudly for the means of higher education. Let us have high grade colleges, and let them act as feeders to this University. Let the common school supply the college, and we will have a grand old system that will redound to the honor of our people, and will be the bulwark against the inroads of dishonesty, corruption and all the crimes of which ignorance is the mother.

We have not room in our short compass to discuss this subject as freely as we would like, but we tell our people, that this question will soon be decided. Nothing should be feared from its re-establishment—this talk of aristocratic, high blood is only from the lips of those shallow brained worthies who are opposed to education in any shape or form. We desire universal education. Nothing to-day is so imperatively demanded. All other questions sink into insignificance, and until we face this fact, and act upon it, all political revolutions, and Democratic ascendancy will avail us nothing. This question is paramount. It is not particularly the University we want established but universal education, graded, guided, controlled, and paid for by the State. Then, and not till then, may we expect our State to take its stand of eminence among her sister commonwealths.

### The Remedy.

What with our strikes, financial troubles, civil service reforms so called, and political exposures, many of our political economists are sadly troubled in seeking out the cause and applying the remedy. Some call for a stronger government, others free trade. What is the disease and what the remedy? We are sick, that's certain. Now we think the true plan will be to call in Dr. Common Sense, submit the whole case to his diagnosis and take the pills he leaves. His remedy will be sure and effective—honest hearts with cultivated brains. It would astonish the world to see how rapidly the body politic would recover if the old Doctor's prescriptions should be faithfully followed.

In a few weeks the fall session of most of our schools will open. Will not the teachers be kind enough to let us hear from them on their opening—the number of pupils, the mode of instruction adopted. Give us the points on a postal if nothing more, and we will put them in shape. We are anxious to get at the educational status of our country, and we know of no one who can furnish the desired information but the teachers themselves. Give us the dots. We are in dead earnest as the mule said when he had taken his last grab.

We are gratified to witness the interest manifested on the subject of educating the masses by the people throughout the State. They are beginning to realize its great magnitude in shaping the interests of our country. These discussions show that the people are not asleep, and that they will not be remiss in such an important duty hereafter. Keep it alive.

We have received an interesting note from "Enquirer," but without the name of the writer. The DEMOCRAT says we can't publish articles without the name of the author accompanied, and we can't deviate from this rule. Will our fair contributor please send us her name that her note may receive attention.

That knife is worth a dollar. How is "worth" passed in this sentence?

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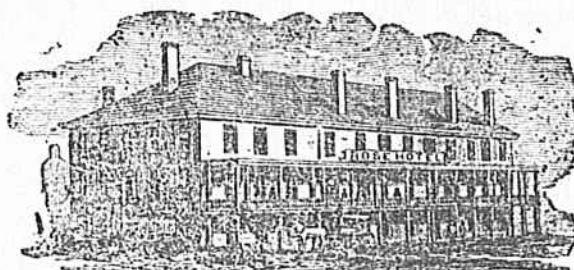
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1879.—VOLUME XII.

THE

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